IN THE CLAIMS

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5.

steps of:

Please make the following claim substitutions:

(Original) A method for maintaining a connection between a server 1 and a client comprising the steps of: 2 receiving a message; 3 determining whether to store one or more elements of the message; 4 storing the one or more elements of the message when the one or more 5 elements of the message are to be stored; 6 transmitting the message; and 7 determining whether the server has failed and when the server has failed, 8 restoring the server to a pre-failure connection state using the one or more stored 9 message elements. 10 (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the 1 steps of: 2 determining whether to delay the message; and 3 delaying the transmission of the message until one or more conditions are 4 satisfied when the message is to be delayed. 5 3. (Original) The method as recited in claim 2, wherein the one or more l conditions comprises successful storage of the one or more elements 2 of the message. 3 (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the 1 2 steps of: determining whether to discard the message; 3 discarding the message when the message is to be discarded; and 4 wherein the message is not transmitted when the message is to be 5 discarded. 6

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(Original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the

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14. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including the step of

periodically transmitting, when said server has failed, an outgoing

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29. (Canceled)

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message to the client to maintain the connection until the server is 3 restored. 4 15. (Canceled) 16. (Canceled) 1 17. (Canceled) 1 18. (Canceled) 19. (Canceled) 1 20. (Canceled) 1 21. (Canceled) l 22. (Canceled) 1 23. (Canceled) 24. (Canceled) 1 25. (Canceled) 1 26. (Canceled) 1 27. (Canceled) 1 28. (Canceled) l